

polygalacturonases, rhamnogalacturonases, pectin lyases, other mannanases, pectin methylesterases, cellobiohydrolases, transglutaminases; [or mixtures thereof] and combinations of any of the foregoing.

24. (Amended) An isolated enzyme having endo-beta-1,4-glucanase activity, [in which] wherein the enzyme is (i) free from homologous impurities, and (ii) produced by the method according to claim 21.

25. An isolated substantially pure biological culture of the strain *Escherichia coli*, DSM 12805.

26. (Amended) A method for degradation of cellulose-containing biomass, wherein the biomass is treated with an effective amount of the enzyme according to [any of] claim[s] 1[-5 and 24 or of the enzyme composition according to claim 22 or 23].

REMARKS

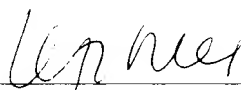
Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-26 are pending. In this amendment, claims 1-5, 7-18, 20, 21, 23, 24, and 26 are amended to conform to U.S. patent practice. No new matter is added.

It is believed that the claims are in condition for allowance, and a determination to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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